GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2175
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2006
GREEN WAY OF CREMATION
Mcleod Smt. Ingrid

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sought proposals from State Governments to promote the Mokshda Green Cremation System, a green and clean technology under its river cleaning programme;

(b) if so, the number of projects received and approved so far and their current status of implementation;

(c) the details of allocation/utilization of funds for this purpose during 2005-06 and 2006-07; and

(d) the steps proposed for extension of this technology in major towns for abating river/air pollution and conservation of forests?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Governments of National Capital Territory of Delhi and Uttar Pradesh have submitted proposals to set up improved wood crematoria based on Mokshda Green Cremation System (MGCS) under the National River Conservation Plan. With regard to Delhi, a proposal was submitted by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) to the Ministry. The Central Government has sanctioned a project for installation of six units in Delhi at an estimated cost of Rs.71.02 lakhs under the Plan during the Financial Year 2005-06 on 70:30 cost sharing basis between Central and the State Government. As regards Uttar Pradesh, a project proposal for installing MGCS at Lucknow was received by the Ministry from the Lucknow Nagar Nigam (LNN). As the proposal was not prepared as per the National River Conservation Directorate guidelines, necessary clarifications on the project were sought from the Municipal Commissioner, LNN after which a revised Project Proposal along with some information was received from the LNN. The LNN has been requested to send additional clarifications on the project proposal, which are awaited.

For provision of a Project Development Facility (PDF), a Medium Sized Project (MSP) to set up 80 units of MGCS in 11 major cities of the country has also been taken up with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) under the Global Environment Facility (GEF) on 70 : 30 cost sharing basis between the Ministry and UNDP-GEF.